

## International Reference

No.

PCT/EP03/01600

## PROVISIONAL INTERNATIONAL REPORT OF EXAMINATION

## I. Basis for the Report

1. Regarding the **components** of the international application (*substitute pages, which were submitted to the Patent Office in response to a request pursuant to Article 14, are considered within the framework of this report as "originally filed", and are not enclosed with the report, since they do not include any revisions.* (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)):

## Specification, pages:

1-5,9 original version

## Patent Claims, no.:

1-10 original version

## Drawings, pages:

1/2-2/2 original version

## V. Substantiated Determination According to Article 35(2) with Respect to Novelty, Inventive Activity, and Industrial Applicability; Documents and Clarifications in Support of this Determination

## 1. DETERMINATION

Novelty	Claims 1-10	YES
	Claims	NO
Inventive Activity	Claims 1-10	YES
	Claim	NO
Industrial Applicability	Claims 1-10	YES
	Claims	NO

## 2. Documents and Clarifications

See supplemental sheet.

PROVISIONAL INTERNATIONAL REPORT OF EXAMINATION  
SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET

Re Section V

**Substantiated Determination According to Article 35(2) with  
Respect to Novelty, Inventive Activity, and Industrial  
Applicability; Documents and Clarifications in Support of this  
Determination**

DE 19917392 discloses a rack-and-pinion steering system having the features of the preamble of Claim 1.

The subject matter of this claim differs from this closest related art in that the pressure-equalizing element is integrated in the pressure piece.

Therefore, the subject matter of Claim 1 is novel under Article 33(2) PCT.

The object may be regarded as simplifying the production of a rack-and-pinion steering system having a pressure equalizer, by eliminating the separate bore for the pressure-equalizing element.

The subject matter of Claim 1 achieves this object with the aid of the features of the characterizing part and is therefore inventive under Article 33(3) PCT.

Claims 2-10 are dependent from Claim 1, and therefore, they are also novel and inventive.

Commercial applicability is found in the automotive industry.